

APPENDIX A

1. (Currently amended) A method for setting basic means of access for operation of devices of which the operation is controllable by electronic means, comprising:

said devices comprising mobile phones, small computer-controlled consumer devices with relatively low level of computing power, computers, motor vehicles, control terminals for industrial processes, all of which devices may require authentication prior to operation;

establishment of a link between a personal authentication system supplied with encryption data and a logic system able to control an electronic device control, said encryption data being stored solely in said authentication system, said link between said authentication system and said device being via wired or wireless means;

checking said encryption data in said authentication system prior to operation of said electronic device control;

assignment of predetermined means of access to said electronic device control associated with said authentication system said predetermined means providing access to physical hardware resources and access to different software functions, based on the privileges of the user who identified himself to the system, said software function evaluates a security token and is running on top of said physical hardware, said predetermined means of access being dependent upon the level of authorization that is set in said personal authorization system;

enabling of said predetermined means for access for said authentication system dependent on the result of said check;

said method providing means of no access or full access and allows more finely defined levels of access as defined in a user profile for configuration or maintenance work.

2. (Previously presented) The method defined in Claim 1, wherein said basic means of access to functions of said device comprise at least one of the following means: disable operation of said devices, enable operation of said devices, or enable configuration of said devices.
3. (Previously presented) The method defined in Claim 2 wherein said link is made without need for intermediate software layers.
4. (Previously presented) The method defined in Claim 3 includes in addition, the step of reading at least one of the following features embodied within said authentication system: firmware programs, device-specific command sequences for execution of specific device-specific functions, cryptographic keys, cryptographic algorithms, and individual decision-making logic.
5. (Previously presented) The method defined in claim 4 which includes configuration of said devices; by authorized persons, wherein after successful authentication, device-specific configuration data are downloaded into said devices from said authentication system in accordance with said authentication systems or over a network.
6. (Previously presented) A device comprising the elements defined in Claim 5 for execution setting basic means of access for operations.
7. (Previously presented) An authentication system, created for authentication of a person or a group of people, comprising the elements defined in Claim 5.
8. (Previously presented) The authentication system defined in Claim 7 which is implemented in the form of a SmartCard .
9. (Previously presented) A system for setting basic means of access for operation of devices of which the operation is controllable by electronic means, including at least one device and an authentication system as defined in Claim 8.

10. (Previously presented) A computer program, containing program code areas for the execution or preparation for execution of the steps of the method in accordance with Claim 4, when said program is installed in a computer.

11. (New) A method for setting basic means of access for operation of devices of which the operation is controllable by electronic means, comprising:

said devices comprising small computer-controlled consumer devices with relatively low level of computing power, computers, motor vehicles, control terminals for industrial processes, all of which devices may require authentication prior to operation;

establishment of a link between a personal authentication system supplied with encryption data and a logic system able to control an electronic device control, said encryption data being stored solely in said authentication system, said link between said authentication system and said device being via wired or wireless means;

checking said encryption data in said authentication system prior to operation of said electronic device control;

assignment of predetermined means of access to said electronic device control associated with said authentication system said predetermined means providing access to physical hardware resources and access to different software functions, based on the privileges of the user who identified himself to the system, said software function evaluates a security token and is running on top of said physical hardware, said predetermined means of access being dependent upon the level of authorization that is set in said personal authorization system;

enabling of said means for access predetermined for said authentication system dependent on the result of said check;

said method providing means of no access or full access and allows more finely defined levels of access as defined in a user profile for configuration or maintenance work.